



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Health Authority

Office of the Director
500 Summer St. NE E20
Salem, OR 97301
Voice: 503-947-2340
Fax: 503-947-2341
TTY: 503-947-5080

May 6, 2010

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Dave Hunt, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re: Request to Apply – Competitive Grant – Non-ARRA Funded
State-Base Oral Disease Prevention Program (OHA-PH-12)

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division, requests permission to apply for the State-Based Oral Disease Prevention Program Grant for federal funds of up to \$750,000 over three years beginning September 30, 2010 and ending September 29, 2013.

The funding is available through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Oral Health. The funding opportunity announcement was received on April 30, 2010 with a due date of June 1, 2010. This grant funding requires no state matching funds.

Agency Action

The State-Based Oral Disease Prevention Program Grant seeks to assist state agencies in developing, enhancing or building capacity for a state-based oral health program through infrastructure aspects, such as oral health leadership, surveillance, statewide planning, broad collaboration, policy development, implementation of school-based dental sealant programs, support of water fluoridation efforts, and

comprehensive evaluation. This grant complements the structure of the existing Oregon Oral Health Program in that this grant supports active community-based programs and initiatives currently underway. This funding announcement represents a much anticipated opportunity for federal support to implement proven comprehensive evidence-based oral health prevention clinical and infrastructure-building activities.

Oregon completed a five-year infrastructure grant with the CDC in 2008 and has demonstrated some success in creating systems of care. For example, the school-based dental sealant program has grown from serving 11 schools in 2007 to over 140 in 2009. However, the oral health needs of Oregonians remains high. The 2007 Smile Survey found that at 35% Oregon was above the national average (29%) of children with untreated dental decay and had a higher rate of children with untreated dental decay than our neighbors WA (19%) and ID (27%). This funding announcement presents an excellent opportunity to seek federal resources that align with our state goals and objectives.

Oral health is increasingly becoming a critical need for Oregonians. Cavities, which is a chronic condition, is the most common childhood chronic disease and a needs assessment conducted by the Public Health Division's Office of Family Health determined that oral health was a priority issue among the maternal and child health populations.

Grant funds will be used to enhance and build capacity in the Oregon Oral Health Program to ensure that Oregon meets all the criteria for a state-based oral health program as outlined in the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) "Guidelines for State-Based Oral Health Programs." Currently, Oregon does not meet the ASTDD guidelines. This would include ensuring that there is adequate staff to carry out the Oral Health Program mission and activities, enhancing the Oregon Oral Health Surveillance System to capture data about disparities, coordination of statewide activities such as a state plan for oral health, strengthening collaboration and linkages with chronic disease programs, and guiding policy development that utilizes the Best Practices for Oral Health as presented by the ASTDD.

If we are successful in securing funding we anticipate adding a .50 limited duration Administrative Specialist 2 who would be responsible for data input, follow-up on incomplete data collection forms, and the distribution of dental sealant materials.

This funding does not require any maintenance of effort by the state and there is no expectation that the state will fund these activities or the position at the end of the grant period. Because this is an infrastructure development grant we anticipate the development of policies during the grant that will support some level of ongoing work.

This grant furthers the mission of OHA to improve the health of Oregonians by providing educational and clinical preventive services and developing policies to support systems of care.

Action Requested

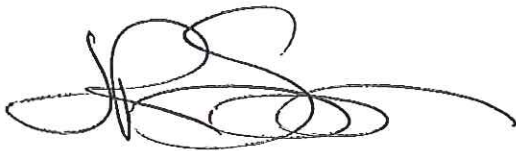
The OHA, Public Health Division requests permission to apply for the State-Based Oral Disease Prevention Program Grant available through CDC for federal funds up to \$750,000 over three years. If awarded, the OHA Public Health Division will evaluate the need for additional expenditure limitation or position authority.

Legislation Affected

None.

For additional information, please call Katherine Bradley at 971-673-0233.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Scherzinger
Deputy Director of Finance

CC: Linda Ames, Legislative Fiscal Office
Sheila Baker, Legislative Fiscal Office
Blake Johnson, Department of Administrative Services
Kelly Freels, Department of Administrative Services